

# Kossuth County Fair - *Blue Ribbon Values* - Capital Campaign

County Fairs and 4-H have a rich heritage and tradition in Iowa, especially in Kossuth County. The Kossuth County Fair provides motivation for our area youth to participate in and excel in their selected areas of interest. Currently, we have 200 youth enrolled in 4-H. Last year, our fair allowed these youth to showcase their interests in the following areas:



- Beef - 159
- Horses - 324 (All Entries)
- Sheep - 57
- Bucket Calves - 39
- Meat Goats - 67
- Dog Obedience - 28
- Poultry - 114
- Pets - 14
- Rabbits - 130
- Swine - 149
- Clothing - 8
- Open Stock Livestock - 121
- Horticulture - 15
- Static - 584



To expand this tradition and increase youth participation, the Fair Board is committed to embarking on a series of projects designed to enhance the fairgrounds, better serving the needs of our residents, especially our youth. The vision is to create improvements to our fairgrounds that foster economic growth in four phases.

## Phase I: Grandstand Project - \$1.95 Million

- Significant Safety Improvements
- Modern amenities and accessible facilities
- Music Venue Attraction
- **Economic Engine for the fairgrounds and future phase projects**

## Phase II

- **Replace two barns for showing livestock, more modern and functional space**
- **Show ring for 4-H programs and community events**
- **Additional parking**

## Phase III

- Event Venue

## Phase IV

- Campground
- Additional Program Space

The grandstands are just the first phase of our ongoing projects. Once Phase I is completed and revenue from the races increases, our focus will shift to Phases II and III, which will greatly benefit our 4-H participants. The races generate substantial revenue crucial for the annual operation of the fairgrounds. This revenue supports various expenses, including:

- Electricity: \$35,000
- 4-H Ribbons and Judges: \$6,500
- Insurance: \$36,000
- Ground Improvements: \$34,000
- Entertainment, Kids STEM Shows, Trophies, Acts and Crafts, Pedal Pull, Advertising: \$117,000

Maintaining and improving the fairgrounds requires significant volunteer hours and financial resources. Last year, 21,712 volunteer hours were contributed during the fair alone. **This year, in collaboration with the Fair Board, several improvement projects have been completed:**

Completion of Sheep/Goat pens: \$47,718 (including \$35,550 in donations)

Spray Foam insulation of the show barn roof \$40,000

Creation of a new tie-out area for Beef

Cementing the Swine Building & installing a new indoor wash rack: \$75,000 (including \$22,000 donated by FFA)

**These initiatives demonstrate our shared commitment to enhancing the fairgrounds, ensuring its continued success as a vital community resource.**

*The Fair Board is seeking community support and financial contributions to bring these plans to life. Though securing the needed funding may seem daunting, it's through the combined efforts of individuals, campaigners, and local businesses that meaningful progress is made, one day and one conversation at a time. Your donation to this project will directly benefit the development, education, and enrichment of youth in Kossuth County and beyond. For information on donating please contact a Fair Board member.*

## Fair Board - *Blue Ribbon Values* - Capital Campaign Committee

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